



A Maryland Army National Guard soldier takes time to play with a child while deployed to Louisiana in support of the Hurricane Katrina relief mission.

Charity Goals Exceeded

Congratulations to the state and federal employees of the Maryland Military Department who contributed to this season's charity campaigns. State employees raised more than \$8,980 for the Maryland Charities Campaign exceeding their goal of \$6,000. Federal employees raised more than \$98,900 for the Combined Federal Campaign topping their goal of \$78,957. Job well done!

In This Issue...

Maryland Adopts New Security Program

Local Community College Extends Tuition Waiver

Get Ready For Severe Winter Weather

Partners In Care Program

MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT MOBILIZES FOR HURRICANES KATRINA AND RITA

The devastating hurricanes that wracked the Gulf Coast of the United States in late August and September brought death and destruction to Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. Thousands of properties were damaged or destroyed and many lives were lost. All elements of the Maryland Military Department participated in relief efforts during this national disaster.

Besides the assistance provided by the federal government and non-governmental organizations such as the American Red Cross, states that were impacted requested assistance from other states through an agreement known as the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). The EMAC is the means by which a state may request personnel, equipment and other resources from other members of the Compact and the process is streamlined so that issues such as licenses, tort liability and reimbursements are already arranged and the resources can begin to travel to the requesting states without delay. Maryland has been a member of the Compact since 1996. The Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) manages EMAC requests from other states.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita generated a total of nine EMAC requests from

Continued on page 3



Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Michael S. Steele
Lieutenant Governor

Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill
Adjutant General

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE MARYLAND MILITARY DEPARTMENT:

Welcome to the first issue of the *Maryland Military Department Digest*. It is my intention that this quarterly publication provide timely information to all of the members and volunteers in all four pillars of our department; the Maryland Army National Guard (MDARNG), the Maryland Air National Guard (MDANG), the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and the Maryland Defense Force (MDDF).

Our department is unique among the other branches of state government. Each branch of our department has specific missions and is equally supportive of the others. We have both federal and state missions and we are superbly performing jobs at home and abroad. We have soldiers and airmen serving overseas in combat zones and we have recently completed missions in Mississippi and Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The coordination of the State's response to those disasters was superbly handled by MEMA and supported by all branches of the department.

As we continue to perform our missions, I want to express my strong support for the backbone of our members and volunteers...our families. In addition to the family benefits provided by the state and federal governments for their respective employees, the department established four Family Readiness Centers to assist families in tackling problems while their military loved one is deployed. Chaplain (Colonel) Sean Lee has arranged a program called "Partners in Care" where local churches are providing services to military families. The MDDF is offering pro-bono legal assistance for military members whose legal problems go beyond what can be provided by the Staff Judge Advocate. MDDF is working to establish financial management teams to provide financial counseling to military personnel and their families.

The Maryland Army National Guard and every other Army unit is transforming itself so that senior commanders who are tasked with carrying out the national security policies of our nation can tailor their combat power with unit modules designed to accomplish certain missions. This means that many existing units of the Army Guard will consolidate, have their missions modified to accommodate this new structure or, in some cases, be taken out of the force structure altogether. The coming changes will allow for the creation of new units and opportunities to serve. One of our challenges has been to determine where best to base these units after they have been transformed. Another challenge is to base these units at locations where they can rapidly respond to state missions, such as natural disasters, which can occur at anytime and without warning. The armories must have facilities large enough to house the units based there as well as their equipment. And finally, the armories should be located where the population constitutes an adequate recruiting base. As these plans are finalized, we will use this publication, our web sites and command briefings to keep our soldiers informed of the changes and their options for continuing to serve our state and our nation. Rest assured, there will be a place in the Maryland National Guard for all of our members.

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission also called the BRAC, held hearings last July about the recommendation from the U.S. Department of Defense to remove eight C-130J aircraft from the 135th Airlift Group. Although the Commission recommended to the White House the removal of the aircraft, they did not redistribute them. The 135th Airlift Group will remain as an airlift unit of the MDANG. We are petitioning the National Guard Bureau and the U.S. Air Force to distribute the C-130J's back to us. In the meantime, we will continue to train, fly and maintain these aircraft until we receive a final decision expected sometime in 2008. A lot can change before 2008 arrives as we continue our efforts to show the value of retaining the C-130J aircraft at Warfield Air National Guard Base at Martin State Airport. The value was on display as we flew more than 100 sorties in support of recovery and relief operations for Katrina and Rita.

Our department is operating at a time of great challenge and I am pleased with the direction we are going. Our employees and volunteers epitomize public service and their performance in and out of state is noteworthy. I am proud of all of you.

Respectfully,

Bruce F. Tuxill
Major General, MDANG
The Adjutant General



Maryland Defense Force Volunteers deployed to the devastated New Orleans area to lend assistance to those affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Continued from page 1

Louisiana and Mississippi. At the request of Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., MEMA coordinated local and state resources to handle specific requests from these states, which resulted in the following efforts:

The Maryland Air National Guard flew 108 sorties using their C-130J aircraft. Approximately 105 Air National Guardsmen volunteered for relief missions in the disaster area. In the process of performing their missions, the Maryland Air National Guard transported 2,078 passengers, and approximately 230 short tons of cargo. The cargo included vehicles, communications equipment, food, water tents, weapons, ammunition as well as personal gear and

sustainment equipment for soldiers and airmen and civilian volunteers who deployed. Approximately 481 civilians were flown in and out of the disaster area of operations.

The Maryland Army National Guard deployed 656 soldiers to Louisiana and Mississippi. They performed military support to law enforcement missions, humanitarian distribution missions, engineer and debris clearing missions as well as providing chaplain ministry teams, a judge advocate team and a public affairs team. Approximately 130 soldiers and airmen of the 115th Military Police Battalion and the 175th Wing deployed as part of a joint task force to Mississippi two days after the

storm struck the coast to support civilian law enforcement. Helicopter sling sets from the Maryland Army National Guard were provided to Louisiana officials to assist in levee reinforcement operations.

The Maryland Emergency Management Agency identified and coordinated personnel and equipment from state and local agencies based upon requests and established needs in the disaster areas. MEMA arranged for the deployment of a joint civilian/military logistics team, emergency management, fire, search and rescue, and emergency medical system personnel and equipment to the disaster area. The equipment included a state of the art communications vehicle that allowed Maryland personnel to communicate with the Maryland Joint Operations Center in Reisterstown. The agency deployed members of its staff to establish a forward base of operations to better manage the response and recovery efforts.

The Maryland Defense Force (MDDF) mobilized and deployed 241 members of its medical reserve to Louisiana. Upon arrival, these volunteer health care professionals established six health clinics in Jefferson Parish outside of New Orleans. During their tour of duty, the MDDF Medical Reserve saw and treated almost 7,000 patients. The deployment to Louisiana was the first such mission outside of the State of Maryland in MDDF's history.

While the exact benefit to the people of Mississippi and Louisiana is difficult to calculate, Aaron Broussard, Parish President of Jefferson Parish, Louisiana has decreed that his parish would honor Maryland by flying the Maryland State flag over the main parish government building on the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina and that he would dedicate a float to Maryland at the next Mardi Gras parade. •

Golf Tourney Chips-in for Family Readiness Group ■ ■ ■

The Maryland National Guard Family Readiness Group recently received a donation for more than \$2,000 from the Adjutant General's Second Annual Golf Tournament. Retired Brig. Gen. (Md.) Raymond B. Clift, who spearheaded the tournament and Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, the adjutant general for Maryland, presented the check for \$2,107.91 to Master Sgt. Ann Weih-Clark, non-commissioned officer in charge of the Family Readiness Office.

"We wanted to do something worthwhile and give something back to the families," said Clift.

The golf outing was held in May 2005 at Worthington Valley Country Club, Owings Mills, Md. Clift said the tourney was a success and we can expect more charity golf tournaments in the future.

"This money means everything to the families," said Weih-Clark. "This gives us an opportunity to help."

The monetary donation will aid Maryland National Guard soldiers, airmen and their families. •



(Left to right) Brig. Gen. (Md.)(Ret.) Raymond B. Clift, Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, Katie Jenkins, Master Sgt. Ann Weih-Clark, William Turner, Larry Butts, Karol Yox, Senior Master Sgt. Bill Miller

Maryland First to Adopt Infrastructure Security Program

Maryland has become the first state in the nation to protect private sector critical infrastructure information under a 2002 federal law, according to officials of the Maryland Emergency Management Agency.

With final accreditation of the Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) program by the federal Department of Homeland Security, the private sector in Maryland will be able to voluntarily share sensitive security information with federal, state and local homeland security and emergency management agencies.

"Maryland has taken another important step toward making the state and its citizens safe," the governor said. "By working with the private sector, the state can help ensure that vital services are delivered to citizens and businesses without interruption."

With the PCII program in place, the governor said, business and industry can share sensitive proprietary and security information with specially trained law enforcement and emergency responders without the risk of the information getting into the wrong hands, whether terrorists intent on doing harm or simply competitors.



One of the most important aspects of emergency preparedness is the ability to protect that infrastructure, but the state's ability to do so has been limited because federal and state freedom of information laws could actually force disclosure of that sensitive information, making the private sector reluctant to share it.

A power company, for example, might not share locations of its most important transmission points or the fact that key industries are on its grid. Telecommunications companies may wish to keep secret the location of critical switching stations that are essential to their networks.

The importance of the information can be seen in the fact that 85 percent of critical infrastructure in Maryland - the networks that provide electricity and

telecommunications, water supply systems, financial institutions, retail businesses, emergency services and health care - belongs to the private sector.

The Homeland Security Act and subsequent regulations created the mechanism by which companies can deliver security information to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, which in turn will provide it to states. Throughout the process, companies control what information is provided and who has access to it.

With the program approved and endorsed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, state officials will meet with representatives of the private sector to promote the program. •



MDDF Member Receives Presidential Award

Maryland Defense Force member Dr. Elmer Carreno received the President's Volunteer Service Award in a ceremony at the White House on October 7, 2005. Dr. Carreno, a Silver Spring resident, led a team of 14 volunteer physicians and registered nurses from Maryland during a two-week deployment to New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina. His team administered medical aid to more than 4,000 people within a ten-day period. The ceremony, part of a White House celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, was also attended by Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez. •

Left: President George W. Bush presents Dr. Elmer Carreno with the President's Volunteer Service Award. USA Freedom Corps photo by M.T. Harmon

Local College Extends Tuition Waiver to Guard Spouses and Dependents ■ ■ ■

Harford Community College (HCC) President Dr. James LaCalle announced that the Board of Trustees has approved a Maryland National Guard Tuition Waiver that was reaffirmed in June and will now be extended to spouses and dependents when a guard member is called to active duty.

Beginning with the Spring 2006 semester, 100 percent of tuition and fees for a spouse or dependent children will be waived when a guard member is called to active duty for a minimum period of six continuous months.

"As a retired Air National Guard member, I appreciate the Board's forward thinking and commitment to this issue. It's

important for us to support the families of guard members who are giving of themselves and their families to actively serve our country," stated LaCalle. "This step shows a responsive partnership between the College and the community," stated S. Fred Simmons, HCC Board of Trustees member, who originally suggested this benefit.

Appropriate documentation of activation and verification of spouse or dependent status must be provided. Once the guard member is released from active duty, the waiver for the spouse or dependent will be terminated; however, completion of courses currently enrolled will be allowed.

Harford Community College, founded in 1957, is a public community college addressing the diverse educational needs of Harford County. An open admissions institution which views learning as a life-long activity, the College provides transfer and career programs and continuing education courses to challenge and to support students. The College embraces a comprehensive, campus-wide environmental sustainability program. As a center of cultural and leisure activities in the County, the College provides numerous programs and services throughout the year that enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Harford County. •

Maryland Air National Guardsmen Receive Prestigious Award

Two Maryland Air National Guard airmen from the 175th Wing recently received the prestigious John L. Levitow Award after graduating from their respective Professional Military Education courses.

The recipients are Tech. Sgt. Ron Anderson, a Maryland Air National Guard recruiter who graduated from the Non-commissioned Officers Academy at McGhee Tyson Air National Guard Base Training and Education Center in Knoxville, Tenn.; and Senior Airman Michael Cueves of the 135th Aerial Port Squadron who graduated from Airmen Leadership School at Andrews Air Force Base in Camp Springs, Md. in September.

The John L. Levitow Award is the highest award given to a single graduate in a Professional Military Education setting who has distinguished him or herself during the course through academic and leadership accomplishments. The award is named after John L. Levitow, the most junior recipient of the Medal of Honor during the Vietnam War.

Congratulations to Tech. Sgt. Anderson and Senior Airman Cueves. •



Saddle-up with the MDDF

Members of the Maryland Defense Force (MDDF) Cavalry Troop conduct saber drills during monthly training at Camp Fretterd, Md. The Troop is currently recruiting volunteer equestrian enthusiasts in an effort to fill out its ranks. For more information contact Maj. (Md.) Ron Roberts at 410-472-1037 or via email at rroberts@mddf.us

Partners In Care

Partners in Care is an initiative of the Maryland National Guard Joint Force Headquarters (MDNG-JFHQ) Chaplain's office. The purpose of this initiative is to coordinate support for Maryland National Guard (MDNG) members and families through partnerships with local faith communities.

Listed below are churches currently participating in the Partners in Care Program.

Contact your local Partners in Care Congregation to find out what services they offer. •

The Church of the Nativity

419 Cedarcroft Road
Baltimore, MD 21212-2523
Rev. Thomas B. Carter, Rector
(POC) Beth Woody
e-mail: nativity.secretary@verizon.net
Phone: (410) 433-4811
Website: www.nativitycedarcroft.org

Glorious Presence Church

1552 Singerly Road
Elkton, MD 21921
Rev. Curtis E Leins, Pastor
(POC) Robert McKnight
e-mail: r.mcknight6@verizon.net
Phone: (410) 920-4882
Website: www.gloriouspresence.org

First Christian Church

800 Giles Street, P.O. Box 127
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
Rev. Ronald L Taber, Sr., Minister
(POC) Fred Coleman
e-mail: fmcoleman30@comcast.net
Phone: (410) 939-2437

The Lutheran Church of St. Andrew

12247 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20902
Pastor Mark A. Hricko
(POC) Marilee Tolletson
e-mail: mtolletson@mailstation.com
Phone: (301) 942-6531
Fax: (301) 942- 0170
Website: www.mystandrew.org

Parish of Christ the King

2727 O Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007
Rev. Charles H. Nalls, Vicar
e-mail:
vicar@parishofchristtheking.org
Phone: (202) 298-6282
Fax: (202) 625-1266

Good Samaritan Lutheran Church

10110 Greenbelt Road
Lanham, MD 20706
Rev. Victor V. Pavlenko
Phone: (301) 794-7300
Fax: (301) 794-4140 or 2263
(POC) Laura Ehle
e-mail: ehlepps@comcast
Phone: (301) 390-8740,
(301) 336-1144
Website: www.goodsamaritan.us.net

Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church

3100 Wallbrook Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21216
Rev. Reginald L. Kennedy, Pastor
Phone: (410) 383-9393
(POC) Mr. Sean Fields
Phone: (410) 298-7677

All Saints

Lutheran Church

16510 Mount Oak Road
Bowie, MD 20716
Rev. Gary Rhinesmith, Pastor
Phone: (301) 249-6300
Fax: (301) 249-4725
(POC) Nathan Rich
e-mail: nrich3@yahoo.com
Phone: (w) (202) 404-1408,
(h) (301) 574-3548
Website: www.allsaintsbowie.org

Oak Park Church of the Brethren

110 Church Lane
Oakland, MD 21550-1925
Rev. Harmon "Mel" Menker, Pastor
e-mail: hmenker@verizon.net
Phone: (301) 334-2243

Oak Grove Church of the Brethren

6557 Sang Run Road
McHenry, MD 21541-1541
Rev. Phillip Matthews, Pastor
Phone: (301) 387-7502

Redeemer Lutheran Church

20440 Downes Road
Parkton, MD 21120
Rev. James L. Banach, Pastor
e-mail:
pjbanch@redeemerparkton.com
Phone: (410) 343-1665
Website: www.redeemerparkton.com

Award of Excellence

Ms. Cheryl Whetstone was presented the Adjutant General's Award of Excellence during the 6th Annual State Employee Recognition Program held on November 18. The Award of Excellence is given for performance far beyond customary expectations and consistent outstanding performance for a minimum of two years. Whetstone, a Personnel Associate with the department, has been employed by the state for 22 years.

"I'm most definitely honored to have received this award," said Whetstone. •



(Left to right) Brig. Gen. Charles A. Morgan III, assistant adjutant general for air; Ms. Cheryl Whetstone; Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, the adjutant general. Photo by Staff Sgt. William Fearrington

Prepare for Winter Weather

With winter here it's important to prepare for the cold and snow that come with it. The following contains information to help you get ready for serious winter weather.

A **Winter Storm Watch** means that a winter storm is possible for the area. This watch is issued 12 to 36 hours before the event. A **Winter Storm Warning** means that a Winter Storm is occurring, or will soon occur in your area. A **Blizzard Warning** means that sustained winds or frequent gusts to 35 miles per hour or greater and considerable falling snow, which will reduce visibility to less than a quarter mile, are expected for a period of three hours or longer.

Winter Storm Preparation

>Brush up on first aid especially for treatment of exposure to the cold, frostbite and hypothermia

>Carry a winter storm survival kit in your vehicle that should include:

- Mobile phone, charger and batteries
- Blankets/sleeping bags
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Knife
- High-calorie non-perishable food and water
- Extra clothing to keep dry
- Butane lighter
- Sack of sand or kitty litter for traction
- Shovel
- Windshield scraper & brush
- Tool kit
- Tow rope
- Battery booster cables
- Compass and road maps



>Make sure that stocks of non-perishable food and water are sufficient.

>Make sure there is plenty of food and water stored for pets and livestock.

>Make sure there is adequate warm clothing for each member of the family.

>Fully check and winterize your vehicle before the winter season begins.

>Keep your car's fuel tank full for emergency use and to keep the fuel line from freezing.

>Invest in a NOAA Weather Radio with a tone-alert feature to keep you informed of watches and warnings issued for your area.

During a Storm

>Avoid unnecessary travel. About 70 percent of winter deaths related to ice and snow occur in automobiles.

>Listen to NOAA Weather Radio, radio or television for updated information about the storm. These devices should be battery-operated or have a battery backup in the event of a power failure.

>If you are caught out in your vehicle when the storm hits, stay in your vehicle. You will become quickly disoriented in wind-driven snow and cold. Run the motor about 10 minutes each hour for heat. Open the window a little for fresh air to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Make sure the exhaust pipe is not blocked. Turn on the dome light at night when running the engine, as this will make you

more visible to rescuers. After the snow stops falling, raise the hood to indicate that you need help.

>Eat and drink. Food provides the body with energy for producing its own heat. Keep the body replenished with fluids to prevent dehydration.

For more information, visit www.mema.state.md.us •



Maryland Air Guard Sharpshooters

Congratulations to Tech. Sgt. Matt Clement who recently earned the Distinguished Rifleman's Badge and Master Sgt. Charlie Cross who recently earned the Distinguished Pistol Badge. Tech. Sgt. Greg Blackstock, Maryland Air National Guard Shooting Team coach, mentored the airmen.

We are proud of their accomplishments!

Lewis and Clark Essay Contest

The National Guard Bureau announces a unique opportunity for the youth of America. Students who will be high school juniors or seniors by August 2006 are eligible to participate in the National Guard's Lewis and Clark Youth Rendezvous essay contest. Ten students from each state and territory will be involved in this once-in-a-lifetime experience, and earn an all-expenses-paid trip to North Dakota August 13-18, 2006.

"By way of an essay contest, our nation's high school junior and seniors will be afforded the opportunity to compete for one of the 540 spots in this immersion into history," said Steven L. Stearns, Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration project officer. Students

need to write a Lewis and Clark focused-essay in order to be a state finalist.

The Lewis and Clark-focused essay needs to address the following question: *"In your opinion, what military value most describes the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery journey and why?"* (Military values are outlined on the website below.)

The essay must be a minimum of 1,000 words, but not more than 1,500 words; and can be submitted online or by mail and must be received between Nov. 12, 2005, and midnight Feb. 28, 2006.

To submit an essay or learn more about planned events, activities and essay contest rules, go to www.lcy-outhrendezvous.com. •

Numbers You Need to Know

**Maryland National Guard Family
Readiness Office**
410-576-6019

**MDARNG Department of
Information Management Help Desk**
410-702-9600

**Maryland National Guard
Chaplain's Office**
410-576-6124

Red Cross
Central Maryland Chapter, Baltimore
1-888-737-4306
Southern Maryland Chapter, La Plata
301-934-2066
Lower Shore Chapter, Salisbury
410-749-5331
Frederick County Chapter, Walkersville
301-662-5131

Websites

Maryland Government Website
www.maryland.gov

**Maryland Military Department
Website**
www.mdmildep.org

**Weather Related School Closing
Information**
www.schoolsout.com



Fifth Regiment Armory
Baltimore, MD 21201-2288

Maryland Military Department

Digest

The Maryland Military Department Digest is published quarterly by the Maryland Military Department via the Maryland National Guard Public Affairs Office, 5th Regiment Armory, Baltimore, Md. 21201-2288. Articles or suggestions can be forwarded to the editor, or call us at 410-576-6012.

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Michael S. Steele
Lieutenant Governor

Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill
The Adjutant General

Rick Roth
Editor